

It is too soon to make a decision. Please allow more time for public comment. I strongly oppose relaxing regulation that will allow further consolidation of licensed broadcast media ownership. The USA has arguably the most homogenized broadcast program makeup in the world.

Where we once had local voices for news and entertainment, we now have what is known in the

industry as "centralcasting," where broadcast license owners (companies that own lots of radio/TV stations across the nation) have a central studio that allows a few people to create homogenized content while even deceiving the listening/viewing audience that the program is "locally produced" with the on-air talent suggesting that they are actually in the community during the broadcast!

This reduction in local voices is a travesty to the public. Broadcasting licenses should be allocated to ensure the public the opportunity to have local voices back on the airwaves.

To suggest that "market forces" and technologies such as the internet and hundreds of channels on cable/ satellite have opened up "more choice," is false. What does the internet have to do with broadcast license ownership decisions? A very large part of the US population is not "connected" to the internet.

Please ask the public what they think about the "diversity" of the broadcast selection today. It's all the same few companies owning multiple channels! And radio is limited by the FM/AM dial. No more licenses are being allocated. Why should you allow more consolidation of the radio market when three companies own on average 75% of all the stations in the top 25 metro markets in the US?! At night in most cities, do you know that multiple channels have the same music feeds at the same time, with different remotely administered commercials in between songs? Is that the variety the public deserves and wants?

Further consolidation will most importantly increase open market FM and AM license sales prices to further limit the number of entities able to purchase and operate a local station. At tens of millions of dollars each, who else can afford the licenses that come to market other than the top three companies that already dominate the radio markets?

Please delay your decision and allow time to ask the taxpayers of this country to further comment on this extremely important matter.